## ABSTRACT

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printing.

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Secure printing of print data from a client application residing on a data network to a set top box which has a printer, said set top box residing

on a digital cable hetwork which has a cable head end for interfacing said digital cable network to said data network, wherein print data is generated in said client application after which it is determined whether a secure communication path exists between said client application and said set top box. If the secure communication path exists, the print data is transmitted from said client application to said set top box. The print data is then sent from the set top box to the printer for